

THE CALENDAR.....

December 8 . . Diane Lucas has the December meeting, at 203-B Entwhistle. Members interested in the "Survival" slide show should be at the Lucas's at 7 p.m., for the 20-minute taped show.

The regular meeting will start at 7:30. The nominating committee will formally present the slate for 1970 officers (voting at the January meeting). Further nominations need not be made from the floor, but can be handed to the nominating committee (Al Green, Liz Anderson) before the ballots are printed. Nominations can also be made the night of the election, but in any case, please be sure that your nominee has agreed to run.

The slate for 1970: President Frank Buffum
 Vice President Jim Nichols
 Secretary Carol Burge
 Treasurer Roman Motyka
 Member-at-large . . . Dennis Burge

December 13 (or 14)..another scheduled trip to Maturango Peak. This is the highest point (5,850 ft) in the Argus Range which lies along the east border of the station. A 2-hour drive up onto the aircraft ranges, and then a class 2 walk, and you have a summit with a view - Panamints & Cosos. Jim Nichols will make the arrangements for this trip.

January 10 (or 11), Argus Peak. (6,542) is scheduled. An hour's drive to Trona and Homewood Canyon, and 3,000 feet of class 2. Let Liz Anderson know, if you're interested in this one.

January 12..the regular meeting at John Wick's, 625 Norma, Ridgecrest. Election night. In addition to the board, you vote for the members of the Qualifications committee, and for Team leaders on the roster.

OPERATIONS

On Sunday, November 30, at 1050, Carl Heller received a call from a Mrs. Richardson, reporting that 3 teen-age boys had not returned from a Saturday drive on Nine-mile Canyon. The alert was arranged by Barbara Slates and Carol Burge while the family and friends of the boys drove the roads looking for the vehicle.

Don Glennon, when called, said that the area was in Tulare County. The family (Mrs. Pooley) said **she** had notified Johnny McNally.

About 1400, Mrs. Pooley phoned Heller and said the problem had been a weak car battery. After spending the night by a fire, the boys got started through the services of a passing motorist.

MEMBERSHIP

Carl Heller

The three patches available to members are the CLMRG armpatch, the MRA-Support armpatch, and the MRA patch. The CLMRG patch is worn by everyone on the call roster including the Search team and the telephoners. The Support patch is worn by the mountaineering and special skills Support members. The MRA patch is worn by Technical team members and special skills Senior members.

This leads to a stratified membership which may have some disadvantages. The advantages as seen by the Qualification committee are that members may be encouraged to improve their skills. There is more challenge to take a First Aid course, to practice fifth and sixth class climbing, or to work on some aspect of rescue work that may be personally somewhat unpleasant. The present Qualification committee is also pushing to keep Technical members in practice, by requalification.

We would like feedback from the members about this general program. There may be disadvantages which the committee doesn't see. There may be better ways of keeping the rescue group and its members ready to go. The committee - Heller, Nichols, Green - welcomes comments, either privately or publicly. (Editor: Or write your comments for the Newsletter)

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No new call roster since 15 October. Russ Huse and Liz Anderson are now Senior members.

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The First Aid class being taught by CLMRG members Jim Nichols and Carl Heller has 48 students. Only three students are CLMRG members, the rest are, residents of the local community.

FINANCES

And our thanks, to Mrs. John Gerhart of Berkeley, for the check she sent the CLMRG in October.

It is donations like Mrs. Gerhart's that have helped us acquire our latest radio: the General Electric PR-36. So far we have the radio and the battery charger (and a mike not yet delivered) for the \$713. On order, for another \$18, are auxiliary antenna. But the PR-36 is in the Equipment Hut, ready for use. Thank you..to all our donors!

An excerpt from the September MRA NEWSLETTER:

The Mountain Rescue Association has included a communications committee in its organizational structure. It is the purpose of this committee to assist member MRA units with their communications problems, develop new communications techniques, and be responsible for any radio licenses which are issued by MRA.

continued....

Since June of 1961 MRA has held a license to operate on the frequency of 155.160MHz. This license has been expanded over the years and now permits itinerant operation in any state west of 100 W. Longitude. The use of this license and call is available to any member unit of MRA which holds its own license to operate on the 155.160MHz frequency.

The MRA license is designed to be used as a supplement to the license held by the unit. The MRA license offers several benefits which would be difficult to obtain under the individual unit license. This license may be used with 600 watts input anywhere in the western U.S. as well as in Canada with special authorization. The call sign may be used as a common call on operations involving several units with different calls. MRA maintains a list of equipment authorized to operate under its license. This would permit the pooling of equipment from different widely separated units should we be faced with a major disaster or plane crash.

Another item, from the September MRA NEWSLETTER:

THE UNIFORM MAP SYSTEM adopted by MRA several years ago appeared to have received a set back when the government started publishing a different size Sectional, Aereo Nautical Charts. This required that a new numbering system be assigned to the much larger maps. This would have been simple but presently all the maps have not been revised to permit a complete change at this time.

Major Carol Kertson of Western Areospace Rescue and Recovery Center informs us that the continuing use of old maps when the new issue overlaps the old, but doesn't completely replace, will cause no problem. At Hamilton they will continue to use both, and that if you are communicating with them inform them to which maps you, are working from - the new or old. Rescue units are told not to make any changes in their system until all the maps covering their area have been published.

EDITOR'S CUBBYHOLE Liz Anderson

WARNING! We keep hearing of incidents where packs, sleeping bags, even tents have disappeared, either at a roadhead or along the trails. Remember the good old days when your pack was safe in camp for days?

Since the last issue of the China Lake Newsletter, the CLMRG members at the October meeting voted on possible names for the NL. The four names receiving the most votes (or the most points on a weighted-vote system) were THE TALUS PILE, ROUTEFINDER, THE NUBBINS, and THE CRUDHEAP. We are still walking circles around the problem. Something may come of it, even yet.

Newsletter Editor:
Elizabeth Anderson, CLMRG, P.O.Rox 5773, China Lake, California, 93555.